

# Border Eagle

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'



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## the inside Scoop

### Viewpoints:

*The 47th Flying Training Wing vice commander says goodbye to Laughlin for the second time.*

Page 2

### News:

*Methods for properly handling suspicious mail are explained.*

Page 6

*Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 02-1 graduates in ceremony today.*

Pages 10, 11

### CFC progress:

\$80,000

\$75,022 Currently raised

\$60,000

\$50,950 Wing goal

\$40,000

\$30,000

\$20,000

\$10,000



## Air Power

Quote of the Week

"Air control can be established by superiority in numbers, by better employment, by better equipment, or by a combination of these factors."

—Gen. Carl A. Spaatz

## Vice wing commander leaves base

Compiled from staff reports

Colonel Herbert Foret, 47th Flying Training Wing vice commander, will move on to Randolph Air Force Base to assume the director of safety position.

"We will sorely miss Col. Foret's enthusiastic attitude and reasonable approach to life," said Col. Rick Rosborg, 47th Flying Training Wing commander. "His enthusiasm is contagious and has been embedded in the local community. We wish him luck and God speed."

Foret spent more than a year and a half as the vice commander at Laughlin. He will be replaced by the 47th Operations Group commander, Col. George Doran.

Doran will relinquish command of the 47th OG in a ceremony Tuesday. See page 4 for details.

(Foret bids farewell on page 2).



Photo by Airman Timothy J. Stein

Col. Herbert Foret, 47th Flying Training Wing vice commander, is hosed down Tuesday on the flightline after making his final flight at Laughlin Air Force Base. The colonel will move on to Randolph Air Force Base to be the AETC safety director.

## U-2 pilot honored

By 1st Lt. Dawnita Parkinson

Public Affairs

Maj. Rudolf Anderson Jr., the former Laughlin U-2 pilot shot down and killed over Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis, will be honored today when the Operations Training Complex is renamed Anderson Hall.

The dedication ceremony, which will be attended by Maj. Anderson's daughter and one of his two sons, will take place at 3 p.m. in front of the OTC.

People on base are encouraged to walk to the ceremony, as parking will be limited. A bus will also be available at Club XL at 2:40 p.m. and 2:50 p.m. to provide transportation.

The ceremony is scheduled to begin with a U-2 flyover, performed by the 9th Reconnaissance Wing at Beale Air Force Base, Calif. Two Beale U-2 pilots will

## Halloween celebrated

By Airman Timothy J. Stein

Staff writer

Halloween trick-or-treating will be allowed on base from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday for children of military and Defense Department identification cardholders.

Due to heightened security, sponsoring nongovernment ID cardholders on base is not authorized.

In preparing for the annual event, the 47th Flying Training Wing Safety Office printed pamphlets on Halloween safety, available now at the base library, said Paul Blair, ground safety manager.

In addition to the pamphlets, the safety office will also be giving away glow bracelets Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at the base library and from 6 to 8 p.m. at Ribas Dominici Circle.

The 47th Security Forces Squadron will have extra patrols cars in the housing area Wednesday night to help

See 'OTC,' page 4

See 'Halloween,' page 4



# Commanders' Corner

By Col. Herbert Foret  
47th Flying Training Wing vice commander

## Goodbye, once again, Laughlin

It's hard to believe my wife, Terri, and I are departing Laughlin Air Force Base for the second time. In fact, of my nearly 24 and a half years of service, I have served more than six years here.

We depart with fond memories of a base and local community known throughout the Air Force for its living spirit of family and cooperation. In a word, I am proud to have served with members of Team XL. It's not what Team Laughlin accomplished, but how we accomplished it, and the feelings of pride and success

each of us takes with us as we depart.

Thank you – to each and every member of Team Laughlin, for your sacrifice, your dedication to mission, your courtesies, and your respect. I truly appreciate what each of you did to make my tour here so personally rewarding.

My goal, as I documented in the *Border Eagle* when I arrived here as the vice commander in April 2000, was to “be a good wing man and not let my commander down, or those with whom I serve down.” I had the

personal goal of being the best vice commander in the entire Air Force. I don't know how well I met my objectives, but like retired Brig. Gen. Robbie Risner said, “Never, never, never give up, and always go the extra mile.” Let it be said, I gave it my best because you members of Team Laughlin inspired me to do such.

Terri and I bid you a fond farewell, and I ask God to bless each of you.

I am so thankful that I had this opportunity to serve and that I am an American. God Bless America!

## Top Three Talk



By Master Sgt. Charles Wingate  
47th Contracting Squadron superintendent

## Air Force: Service, education, travel

After 10 years in the Air Force I was faced with a tough decision: stay in or get out.

At that time the Air Force was offering early outs with separation bonuses. I could have pocketed as much as \$20,000 after taxes, but I weighed all the factors and came to the conclusion that this would not meet all of my long-term needs.

During my career I have received my Community College of the Air Force degree in contract management, completed several additional contracting classes, and got to travel to the Philippines, Korea, Germany, France, Bosnia, Croatia, Hungary, Italy and Saudi Arabia. I found something enjoyable about all of my assignments and made it a point to learn from each of them.

When I look back on my Air Force career, I can honestly say that I have traveled, continued my education, experienced historical events firsthand and made friends. In fact, if it weren't for the Air Force, I would have never met my lovely wife, Cynthia. I have accomplished all of

this and answered the call to protect the interests of our country.

The Air Force is what you make of it. You must always take advantage of the opportunities offered and seek out those that are not readily apparent. While at Laughlin, all airmen should take advantage of their educational benefits and opportunities.

***“The Air Force is what you make of it. You must always take advantage of the opportunities offered and seek out those that are not readily apparent.”***

Since many universities offer online courses, you can't use the excuse that your work schedule inhibits you from being educated. And there are several community clubs and professional organizations that you can join and lead.

I have had bad times and good times in the Air Force, and all of them involved decisions that I

made. You must make choices that you are willing to live with and then accept the consequences. The best advice I can offer airmen is this: Evaluate your current situation before making a career decision. The Air Force offers the opportunity to serve, learn, travel and meet new people. The Air Force is hard to beat!

**Border Eagle**



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Submissions can be e-mailed to:  
bradley.pettit@laughlin.af.mil  
timothy.stein@laughlin.af.mil

***“Excellence – not our goal, but our standard.”***

– 47th FTW motto

### FPCON Charlie

Laughlin is currently in Force Protection Condition Charlie. All people should remain vigilant and report suspicious activity to security forces at 298-5100.

# OPSEC: Don't give 'bad guys' information

By Christine Saalbach  
Randolph Air Force Base

John Wayne used to say, "Talk low. Talk slow. Don't say too much."

That's good advice in today's military environment as we conduct operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle. It's smart to limit what we say and to whom we say it. It's good OPSEC, or operations security.

As President Bush and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld have stated quite clearly, this war on terrorism will be like no other. It not only includes combat, but also a conflict that includes information.

OPSEC is a process of denying information to our enemies. That's any information, positive or negative, classified or unclassified. It includes casual chitchat with the cashier at the department store, conversations at restaurants and clubs, or news clippings sent to friends and family via mail or e-mail.

Since the tragedies of Sept. 11, I'm sure your friends and relatives have phoned or e-mailed you, like

mine have me. One college friend who knows I go to the Pentagon on occasion sent me an e-mail to tell me things he'd wanted to say to me for 30 years. He was that scared for my fragile existence.

I'd bet some of your relatives and friends called to ask you what you think about what happened and, knowing that you work for the military, what you think the military ought to do.

Here's where OPSEC enters the picture.

The first thing to think about is who else is listening to you other than the person you are talking to. Landline phone calls can be monitored, and cell phone and portable phone conversations are even easier to monitor. E-mail messages can be intercepted, as well.

When in public, there are other customers around you at the store and other people who can hear what you're saying at a restaurant or club.

Who are these people? What are their intentions? Those are questions you can't answer, and that's why you need to practice OPSEC.

It's the fine line between freedom of speech and our responsibility as members of the United States Department of Defense.

Let me relate an incident that happened recently at a hotel bar in a suburb of Dallas. Four men were sitting next to me. All four said things that made it obvious to me they were commercial airline pilots. I tuned in to their conversation.

One man was a reservist who was talking about the combat capabilities he had observed while flying the C-130J. I sat next to them, feigning disinterest. I finally identified myself, and you should have seen the look on their faces. A little old lady not only knew what a C-130J is, but also could tell them they should not be discussing the combat capabilities of an Air Force weapons system in a bar.

More recently, an Air Force member sent some friends, via his home e-mail, an article that appeared on Yahoo entitled, "Report: U.S. Special Forces in Afghanistan." He made the subject of the e-mail message, "So much for keeping a se-

cret." From his home, he sent the message to two friends and a copy to himself at work. At work, he forwarded the e-mail to his branch.

That's a violation of OPSEC. This person has attached credibility to the article's contents, whether or not the article's assertion is true that U.S. Special Forces are indeed on the ground in Afghanistan. The subject line he put on the e-mail also implied credibility.

This could alert the "bad guys" that this is classified and true information. The fact that this person is an Air Force noncommissioned officer could also indicate to our foes that the information is credible.

In this war of information, we must be ever mindful that what we say could be our undoing. What we say to our friends, relatives, acquaintances or the store clerk who asks what we know or think about the current situation could reach enemy ears.

The general public looks to the Air Force to defend their country. Let's not lose this war to loose talk or careless paper handling.

## Actionline 298-5351

This column is one way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely personal reply.

It's also very useful in case more information is needed in order to pursue your inquiry. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the Border Eagle. Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation, and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.



*Rick Rosborg*  
**Col. Rick Rosborg**  
47 FTW commander

AAFES	298-3176
Accounting and Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Commissary	298-5815
Laughlin Information Line	298-5201
Hospital	298-6311
Housing	298-5904
Legal	298-5172
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810
Military Equal Opportunity	298-5400
Equal Employment Opportunity	298-5879
FWA hotline	298-4170

**Reveille, Retreat and Taps:** As most base residents have probably noticed, Reveille, Retreat and Taps now play every day on base. Playing these symbolic bugle calls is a long-standing tradition, and it's part and parcel of what we do – Laughlin is not just involved in training the world's best pilots; we are keepers of military tradition. I also believe that if we're going to uphold this tradition, it's

important that these bugle calls be audible.

So far, I have received 11 anonymous complaints regarding this initiative. I feel it's important to address community complaints and explain my reasons for initiating this program, but it's hard to do that when I don't know who the complainants are. I am aware of the volume being too loud in housing, and we are addressing that issue now; however, I feel strongly about continu-

ing this program because I believe it is important to preserve military traditions as we grow military families.

If you have ongoing concerns about this or any other issue, please attend my Townhall Meeting at 7 p.m. Nov. 7 in the base theater. All three group commanders and I will be there to take questions, as well as issues for action. I look forward to seeing you there.

## Night flying scheduled

Night flying is scheduled for Monday until 10 p.m., Tuesday until 10 p.m., Wednesday until 9:15 p.m., Thursday until 8 p.m., and Friday until 6:06 p.m.

For more information, call Capt. Ken Shugart at 298-4344.

## Change of command set

Col. George Doran will relinquish command of the 47th Operations Group to Col. Paul Ackerley during a change-of-command ceremony at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday in front of the Operations Training Complex.

For more information, call 2nd Lt. Amber McKnight at 298-5293.

## Promotion ceremony set

An enlisted promoted ceremony is set for 4 p.m. Wednesday at Club Amistad.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Sandra Harper at 298-5068.

## Townhall meeting set

The 47th Flying Training Wing commander will host a townhall meeting at 7 p.m. Nov. 7 in the base theater. The commander will discuss the "state of Laughlin Air Force Base" and will also take issues for action. Military, civilians and their family members are encouraged to attend to ask questions or relay their concerns. All three group commanders will be present.

# Newsline

For more information, call Public Affairs at 298-5988.

## Computer security needed

October's information assurance year focus is computer network defense. Proper construction and safeguarding of computer passwords, using password protected screensavers, appropriate use of the Internet and e-mail services and prompt implementation of antivirus signature files are all critical elements in ensuring vital computer networks remain protected.

Additional information may be found in AFI 33-202, "Computer Security," or by calling the Laughlin information assurance office at 298-4271.

## Microwaves recalled

Certain Kenmore microwaves used in base housing are being recalled due to a safety hazard. Those microwaves with serial numbers beginning with XC should be unplugged since they can continue heating, even when in the off position.

For more information, call Al Wehr at 298-5003.

## Input about BX sought

The 47th Flying Training Wing commander would like input on items Laughlin people would

want carried in the base exchange. People are encouraged to send input about product lines or suggested store layout. Send feedback to Lt. Col. Kevin Illsley, 47th Support Group deputy commander, no later than Nov. 2.

For more information, call 298-5250.

## Air Force Villages trip set

The Company Grade Officers Council, along with Laughlin's Top 3 and Rising 6, are organizing a trip to Air Force Villages in San Antonio to participate in Veterans Day activities Nov. 11.

The activities will include a formal ceremony at 11 a.m., followed by a short lunch, which some of the Laughlin participants will attend, and a tour of the facilities.

For more information on attending the Air Force Villages, or if you would like to help make greeting cards for the veterans, call 1st Lt. Anthony Chu at 298-5734.

## Commissary adds hours

The commissary now has "Night Owl" shopping hours on Thursday nights from 7 to 9 p.m.

For more information, call the commissary at 298-5815.

## 911 calls need location

Those calling 911 on base need to inform the operator they are calling from Laughlin. Since some phones from base automatically call downtown 911, ambulances could be sent to the wrong location, delaying response time.

### 'OTC,' from page 1

also be available to provide information on the U-2 program in the OTC auditorium at 1 p.m. All are invited to attend.

Retired Brig. Gen. Gerald McIlmoyle, a former Laughlin U-2 pilot who knew and flew with Maj. Anderson, will be the guest speaker. Maj. Anderson and Gen. McIlmoyle were two of only 11 U-2 pilots who flew daily missions over Cuba during the 13 days in October 1962 better known as the Cuban Missile Crisis. A third member of this group, retired Col. James Qualls, will also attend today's event.

Other honored guests will be former 47th Flying Training Wing

commander, retired Maj. Gen. Lawrence D. Garrison, and Gary Powers Jr.

It was exactly 39 years ago tomorrow that Maj. Anderson made the ultimate sacrifice while serving his country. On Oct. 27, 1962, Maj. Anderson was killed in action over Cuba when a Russian surface-to-air missile exploded near his aircraft, penetrating his pressure suit with shrapnel. He crashed into the island. He was the only American casualty under enemy gunfire during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Anderson Hall will serve as a constant reminder of the sacrifice and contribution to the nation made by Maj. Rudolf Anderson Jr. during one of the most uncertain times in American history.

### 'Halloween,' from page 1

ensure everyone has a safe Halloween, said Tech. Sgt. Charles Warren, 47th Security Squadron crime prevention noncommissioned officer-in-charge.

"My biggest concern is that motorists keep their eyes open when they are driving," said Warren.

Listed are some safety tips base members are encouraged to follow this Halloween:

- Advise children to wear costumes that are light in color, short enough to prevent tripping, and are fire resistant.
- Costumes can be covered with reflective tape or glow spray paint so they reflect automobile headlights.
- Hats and scarves should be tied

securely to prevent them from slipping over children's eyes.

■ Never let small children go trick-or-treating alone. They should be accompanied by older children or adults.

■ Confine trick-or-treat rounds to your own neighborhood.

■ Use colorful facial makeup instead of masks to keep vision clear.

■ Children should carry flashlights after dark. If a pumpkin is carried, it should be lit with a battery-lighted device, not a candle.

■ If you're driving on Halloween night, slow down, and be especially watchful. Consider the large number of children wearing masks, which may restrict their vision.

For more information, call the safety office at 298-5662.





Photo by Timothy J. Stein

## Dose of information

Capt. Jolene Morris, 47th Medical Support Squadron pharmacist, fills a prescription for a customer at the Laughlin Pharmacy Monday. Laughlin began celebrating National Pharmacy Week Sunday and will continue until Saturday. Pharmacy staff will work to educate patients on the importance of properly taking medication. For more information or answers to questions, call the pharmacy at 298-6451.

# Suspicious mail: what to do

## Compiled from staff reports

Following the recent rash of Anthrax scares across the country, many people are questioning whether it is safe to send and receive mail.

According to Col. Rick Rosborg, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, Team Laughlin is more than prepared to deal with an event like this should it arise, but the odds are that it won't.

"The likelihood of receiving a piece of mail containing anthrax is extremely low," he said. "We have a very robust mail security program in place that significantly limits one's ability to pass mail of this kind through our system."

Though the threat is small, the colonel said Laughlin people should remain vigilant.

"You are your last line of defense," he said. "Report anything suspicious immediately."

The following are recommended procedures for han-

dling suspicious mail incidents should they occur.

■ Don't panic. Disease can be prevented after exposure to anthrax spores by early treatment with antibiotics.

■ Do not shake or empty the contents of any suspicious envelope or package.

■ Place the envelope or package in a plastic bag or some other type of container to prevent leakage of contents.

■ Do not try to clean up the powder. If you do not have a container, then cover the envelope or package with something (e.g., clothing, paper, trash can, etc.) and do not remove this cover. Then leave the room and close the door, or section off the area to protect others.

■ Wash your hands with soap and water to prevent spreading any powder to your face.

■ If you are at home, then report the incident to local police. If you are at work, report the incident to security police by calling 298-5100. If you believe the package contains a bomb, call 911.

■ List all people who were in the room or area when this suspicious letter or package was recognized. Give this list to security forces for follow-up investigations and advice.

■ Shower with soap and water as soon as possible. Do not use bleach or other disinfectant on your skin.

■ Turn off local fans or ventilation units in the area.

Some characteristics of suspicious packages and letters include the following:

- Excessive postage
- Handwritten or poorly typed addresses
- Title, but no name
- Misspellings of common words
- No return address
- Oily stains, discolorations or odor
- Lopsided envelope
- Excessive weight
- Excessive security material such as masking tape
- Marked with restrictive endorsements, such as "Personal" or "Confidential"
- Shows a city or state in the postmark that does not match the return address



**Thinking  
about getting  
out? Think  
again!**

Call Master Sgt.  
Jimmie Davis, 47th  
Flying Training  
Wing career  
assistance adviser,  
at 298-5456 for  
guidance.

# DECA sends 'write' message to troops

FORT LEE, Va. - The writing is on the wall. Letter writing that is.

This fall, commissary shoppers worldwide have the opportunity to write a simple letter of thanks to the men and women in uniform who leave their homes and families to serve their country – sometimes without knowing when they'll be able to return home.

Recent deployments in response to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks mean an ongoing commissary promotion called "Letters to the Front" takes on even more significance this holiday season.

"Although our top priority is saving customers money on their grocery bills, we're also involved with many promotions and programs that have a positive impact on our military families and community," said Maj. Gen. Robert J. Courter Jr., Defense Commissary Agency director.

"This is the third year commissaries have been associated with the letter-writing effort," said Kaye Kennedy, DeCA acting chief of corporate communications. "It's always been well received by commissary shoppers, but this year it has a special meaning as Americans look for ways to express unity and support for our military."

"During the past two years, thousands of American men and women serving overseas found out how much they are appreciated back home

through the "Letters To The Front Worldwide Letter Writing Contest," said coordinator Marsha Roberts of Rector-Roberts Productions. "It's open to anyone, but school children are the biggest participants, and the soldiers are delighted to hear from them."

Teachers often make the letter-writing contest a classroom activity.

A platoon sergeant in an infantry unit overseas wrote to say, "Your contest is a great idea because not only does it lift a soldier's spirits while he is so far from home, but it gets the next generation to take an interest in the people defending their country."

"My entire platoon of 20 people read your letter," wrote an ambulance platoon leader from Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo. "It changed our outlook and brightened our day."

Contest entrants write a letter of support of 100-150 words, starting with: "Dear service member, I just wanted to say thanks for..." The letter,

attached to an entry form, must be mailed to "Letters To The Front, P. O. Box 25348, Alexandria, Va., 22313. All letters must be postmarked no later than Veterans Day, Nov. 11. Commissaries do not accept entries or participate in the judging, but entry forms are available on displays at most commissaries. Entry forms can also be accessed at [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com).

Prizes for best letters are awarded in age groups, and the grand prize is a \$3,000 computer. Last year's winners included a 15-year-old military dependent and an Air Force chaplain, but this year the prizes will take a back seat for most participants.

***"During the past two years, thousands of American men and women serving overseas found out how much they are appreciated back home through the 'Letters to the Front Worldwide Letter Writing Contest.'"***

**—Marsha Roberts**  
*Rector Roberts Productions*

"This is one project we support that makes us feel good," said Gary Boyle, manager of military corporate development at General Mills. "Especially when we see 10,000 letters going overseas – and then see the letters of appreciation coming back from service members."

**(Courtesy of Defense Commissary Agency)**



Photo by Timothy J. Stein

## Tradition of hugs

Col. Rick Rosborg, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, greets Brig. Gen. Jose Luis Ramon Velazco Guillen, commander of the Mexican Army Garrison in Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila, Mexico, during the annual Abrazo ceremony on the Amistad Dam Oct. 19. It was the 41st time the "embrace of friendship" was observed where Del Rio and Acuna counterparts greet and hug each other. The hug is symbolic of the efforts of President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Mexican President Adolfo Lopez Mateos to jointly construct Amistad Dam.



Photo by Airman Timothy J. Stein

## Sign the dotted line...

Raul Castorena, president of the local chapter of the American Federation of Government Employees Union, signs a new collective bargaining agreement with the base Tuesday while Col. Rick Rosborg, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, looks on. The union represents the civilian workers on the base.

## Interested in the Air Force?

*Call Del Rio's Air Force recruiter at  
774-0911.*

Poor  
health, lost  
income,  
jail,  
discharge...  
**Ecstasy?**  
Maybe they  
should  
change the  
name.

## Base nurses answer 'call' for patient care

Compiled from staff reports

Nurses will be available to consult with patients by phone from 7 to 9 a.m. and 1 to 2 p.m. beginning Wednesday at the Laughlin Clinic.

"Because our nurses have a continuous challenge to balance phone demands with direct patient care demands, we are designating specific times when they will be available to evaluate your health care needs and schedule medical appointments as necessary," said Lt. Col. Kathryn Hall, 47th Medical Operations Squadron commander. "It is an effort to increase customer satisfaction and improve the quality of care."

Those wanting to talk with a nurse about medical care should call the central appointment desk at 298-3578 at the designated times.

"If the nurses are busy with other callers and the call can't be transferred, the appointment clerk will come back on the line and take a telephone consult," Hall explained. "That call will then be forwarded to the nurse electronically so they can call you back as soon as they are free."

Nurse consult calls taken after the designated hours will be forwarded to a nurse for action as patient care demands allow, with all calls being answered within 24 hours. People with routine and non urgent problems needing appointments can be scheduled directly by the appointment clerk and do not require referral to a nurse.

For more information on this process, call Capt. Sylvia Ballez-Griffen, Family Care Flight healthcare integrator and nurse manager, at 298-6322.

## Stop Loss exemptions may be limited

**A**s the end of the planned 30-day Stop Loss evaluation approaches, officials are saying the list of career fields that will be released from Stop Loss restrictions will not likely result in many people being allowed to leave the service in the near future.

By early November, the Air Force will decide if there is an opportunity to exempt any career fields, according to officials.

When mission requirements can be filled without a need for Stop Loss, the Air Force plans to end the program with the maximum amount of flexibility and allow those folks a smooth transition out of the Air Force, officials said.

"But we don't know when that's going to be," said Lt. Col. Mike Gamble, assignment programs and procedures division chief here. "Nobody does."

"Right now because of the double-tasking of homeland defense and force protection, combined with overseas operations and deployments, there are relatively few people who aren't involved," Gamble said. "We really need to remember that the unique feature of this operation is the homeland security requirement – something we haven't focused on before. We need to determine the load all these demands are placing on the force, and that is why we are proceeding with caution."

When the Air Force announced Stop Loss in late September, retirements and separations were indefinitely suspended as of Oct. 2. Dates of April 30 and May 1 were listed in some official correspondence for administrative reasons, giving rise to rumors that Stop Loss had been extended to one of those dates, officials said.

"There has been no change in the policy, but the April and May dates have made it into the rumor mill," said Lt. Col. Rich Binger, chief of separations here. "The fact is Stop Loss continues and no end dates have been set."

For more information on Stop Loss, please visit the AFPC home page at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil).

(Courtesy of Air Force Personnel Center)

## From the Blotter (Oct. 1-15)

■ An individual reported that a package with no return address was delivered to his office. A security forces explosives-detection dog team responded and declared the package free of explosives. The contents of the package were an aircraft parts catalog.

■ An individual reported the moving company people packing her belongings had stolen from her home five necklaces valued at \$1,300. Val Verde Sheriff's office deputies responded and took charge of the situation.

■ Two individuals reported wallets containing

military dependent identification cards were stolen at two different downtown locations. Del Rio Police took charge of the investigation.

■ An individual reported unknown individuals had broken into his car parked at his residence and stolen the stereo system and a backpack containing one dependant identification card. Del Rio Police took over the investigation.

■ Failure to yield the right of way resulted in a two-car accident at the intersection of Mitchell and Liberty streets. The accident caused more than \$2,000 worth of damage.



# Nurse triage: prioritizing patient needs

Compiled from staff reports

With this fast-paced world of telephones, computer e-mails, fax machines and pagers, there seem to be more communication tools than people to communicate. And with all the resultant interruptions, priority is a necessity.

Nurse triage is a systematic way of prioritizing patient care needs. Only licensed professional nurses can perform this service, as their specialized training enables them to apply clinical practice guidelines. These guidelines help nurses identify which category a patient belongs to; patients are categorized as needing urgent, routine or emergent evaluation. That categorization then determines the time frame in which a medical appointment will be scheduled.

In an effort to better serve beneficiaries, new guidelines are being planned for nursing triage that aim to serve patients more efficiently.

Urgent, also described as "acute," problems are defined as an illness or injury that would not result in further disability if not treated immediately. By triage standards, urgent problems should be seen within a 24-hour period. Routine medical appointment priority requires that an appointment be scheduled within a seven-day period. Emergent problems, in contrast, are defined as medical conditions that have a sudden or unexpected onset or worsening of a chronic condition that is threat-

ening to life, limb, or sight and require immediate medical treatment.

"Probably the most difficult part of the triage equation is matching resources to patient needs," said Lt. Col. Kathryn Hall, 47th Medical Operations Squadron commander. "It is impossible to predict how many patients might call on a given day with an acute or urgent problem. Needless to say, it sometimes happens that the call volume exceeds our ability to immediately answer the phone. In these cases, nurses focus on meeting the demands as quickly as possible."

Hall said the nurses will work hard to make the triage process work for Tricare customers.

"Our nurses have a continuous challenge of balancing phone demands with direct patient care demands," she said. "With continued attention at improving the process, we hope to achieve our overall goal of meeting the health care needs of our valued customers."

Hall said going above and beyond is the goal.

"We must all strive to meet or exceed our mission directives," she said. "Our mission at the 47th Medical Group is to provide the highest quality, cost-effective medical care to our beneficiaries, while investing our support to the success of our flying training mission."

For more information on nurse triage, call Capt. Sylvia Ballez-Griffen, 47th Medical Group Family Care Flight healthcare integrator and nurse manager, at 298-6303.

## Chapel Schedule

### Catholic

#### Sunday

- Mass, 9:30 a.m.
- Confession by appointment
- Sunday school, 10:30 a.m.
- Little Rock Scripture Study, 11 a.m. in Chapel Fellowship Hall
- Thursday
- Choir, 6 p.m.

### Jewish

Max Stool, call 775-4519

### Muslim

Dr. Mostafa Salama, call 768-9200

### Protestant

#### Sunday

- Adult Sunday school, 9 - 10:30 a.m.
- General worship, 11 a.m.
- Wednesday
- Women's Bible Study, 12:30-2:15 p.m. at chapel
- Choir, 7 p.m. at chapel

For more information on chapel events and services, call 298-5111.

## Antiterrorism Tip:

Safeguard your identification card.

Current world events require military members to be extra careful during daily routines. Should your wallet, base stickers or ID become lost or stolen, report it to the local police and Law Enforcement desk at 298-5100 immediately.



Thinking about getting out? Think again!

Call Master Sgt. Jimmie Davis, 47th Flying Training Wing career assistance adviser, at 298-5456 for guidance.

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## Where are they now?

**Name:** 1st Lt. Brian M. Moyer

**Class/date of graduation from Laughlin:** Class 00-10,  
June 23, 2000

**Aircraft you now fly and base you are stationed at:**  
EC-130E, Davis Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

**Mission of your current aircraft?** Airborne command and  
control center

**What do you like most about your current aircraft?** It is  
the same airframe that my father spent 30 years working on.

**What do you dislike most about your current aircraft?**  
The only form rides we get are with a tanker.

**What was the most important thing you learned at  
Laughlin besides learning to fly?** Stay close to your  
buddies and watch out for each other.

**What is your most memorable experience from  
Laughlin?** Riding in a maintenance mule with 10 other  
people and the squadron commander

**What advice would you give SUPT students at  
Laughlin?** The more relaxed you are, the better you will do.



(Courtesy photo)

## The *XLer*



Airman Timothy J. Stein

**Staff Sgt. Diana Beauvais**  
*Laughlin Chapel assistant*

**Hometown:** Powell, Wyo.

**Family:** Husband, Troy;  
two sons, John and Daniel

**Time at Laughlin:** 4  
years

**Time in service:** 4 years

**Name one way to improve  
life at Laughlin:** Provide  
more activities for families

**Greatest accomplishment:**  
The birth of my sons

**Hobbies:** Cooking, cro-  
cheting and reading

**Bad habit:** Being absent  
minded

**Favorite film:** Twister

**Favorite band or musi-  
cian:** Tim McGraw/Faith  
Hill

**If you could spend one  
hour with any person,  
who would it be and why?**  
My paternal grandfather.  
He passed away before I  
was born.

# Runner completes 100-mile race

By Airman Nathaniel Kelleher

Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark.

"Run, Forest! Run!"

Well, not exactly, but to finish a 100-mile run, an instructor pilot from the 53rd Airlift Squadron at Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark., needed all the motivation he could get.

"You're running for 30 hours," said Capt. Shannon Johnson. "You start in the dark, the sun comes up, you run all day, the sun sets, the stars come out, the moon comes out, you run all night long, the sun comes up and you're still running."

And at the 92-mile mark, somewhere in the mountains around Perryville, Ark., he realized he might not make the 30-hour time limit in the Arkansas Traveller 100-Mile Foot Race, held Oct. 6-7 in Perryville.

Then something started burning inside. He'd come too far not to make the final time limit, he said.

"So even though it really hurt, I just sucked it up and started running," he said.

He was the last to make the time limit, crossing the finish line in 29:52:20.

The Traveller, which is one of five "ultra-runs" held annually in America, isn't just a long road race.

"The whole time you're on fire roads, which is a one-way rutted gravel road, or it's on a trail; and it's constantly up and down mountains," he said.

This is just one in a slew of physical challenges runners face during the race, Johnson said.

"The big danger in these is your kidneys," he said. "What happens is your body starts breaking down your muscle tissue because you can't eat enough food, and that muscle tissue collects on your kidneys."

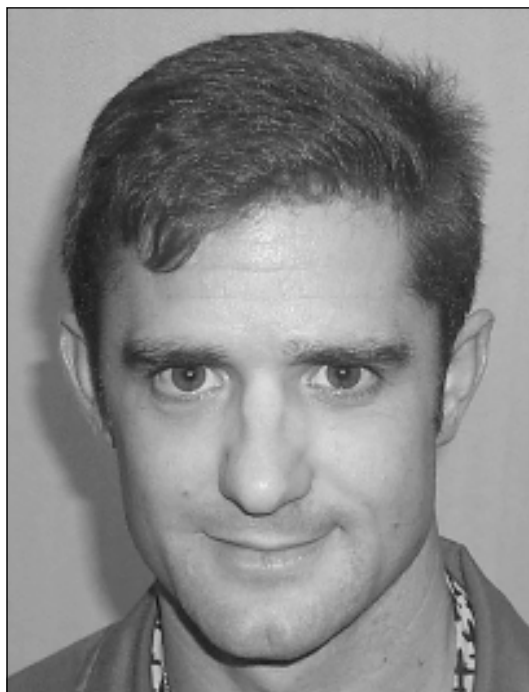
To combat this, the captain said he kept a hydration unit on his back and ate whenever possible at the various checkpoints, where he also received a lot of encouragement from his wife and other spectators.

"Throughout the whole race, you'd eat something at a checkpoint; 10 minutes later you'd be starving," he said.

He said shoes were another problem. The captain suffered with bruises on the bottom of his feet, even though he was wearing high-quality running shoes.

"I didn't realize most ultra runners use three pairs of shoes, and they'll swap out like every 30 miles," he said.

However, all of these physical problems



(Courtesy photo)

Capt. Shannon Johnson completed the Arkansas Traveller 100-Mile Foot Race in under 30 hours. He plans to compete in a 100-mile race every other year.

aren't even half the battle, said the captain.

"You can train up to a certain physical level to be able to do it, but the biggest thing about these races is it's mental," Johnson said.

There were many times when he wanted to quit because most of the race he was running alone, he said. Many runners dropped out or were forced to quit because of injury, or they couldn't make the checkpoints in time, he said. Johnson was the last of 85 runners who finished out of 125 who started.

This was the captain's first 100-mile ultra run. He has run in eight marathons before but wanted a different type of challenge.

"The only challenge for me there was to get my time down lower and lower, and I really wasn't doing that," he said. "I'm more of a long-distance, endurance-type person, so I wanted to find something that was longer."

He found this 100-miler and summoned the courage and motivation to run it.

"I didn't know if I could make 100 miles or not, but I knew I wasn't going to give up," he said.

After meeting this challenge, Johnson said he's ready for more.

"My plan is to run a marathon one year and a 100-miler the next," he said.

## Football Standings

(As of Thursday)

AFC			NFC		
Team	W	L	Team	W	L
Misfits	7	2	LSI Enforcers	9	0
47 CES	4	5	47 OSS	6	3
LCSAM	3	6	87 Talons	6	3
CS/CONS/SVS	1	8	86 Rios Lobos	5	4
E. Panthers	0	9	84/85 Tweets	4	5

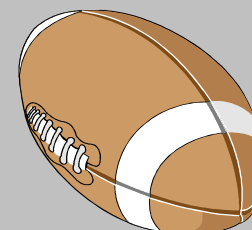
## Scores

### Tuesday

Rio Lobos, 13 – LCSAM, 0  
Misfits, 2 – OSS, 0

### Wednesday

LCSAM, 8 – Misfits, 8  
Tweets, 30 – CS/CONS/  
SVS, 0



## Sports – Play it Safe